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Building Continues

A nation-wide survey of building permits issued in July indicates that high material and labor costs have not caused discouragement to many of those planning construction. A total of \$235,000,000 in 238 cities embraced in the review shows that building is still at high tide, these figures being 14.4 per cent greater than in the corresponding month last year. In the south alone is there less activity than a year ago while the Pacific Coast exhibits the highest percentage of gain. That there is no material lull in building at peak costs is proof of the belief of those thus putting their money into such enterprises that there is no immediate hope generally of a marked decline in prices and that the demand warrants the investment.

If present conditions in building promise a profit on the structures erected there is no ground for expectation of an early drop in rents. This may not be comforting to those who long for a decline in this important factor in the cost of living, but high cost of new buildings will not diminish rents while it will assist in maintaining present rates on older buildings. It has been the belief of some that a reduction of the shortage of housing would lead to lower rents, but conditions are such as to prevent any great excess. Those who are building at present rates certainly are doing it as a matter of urgency.

The situation is not such as induces construction as a matter of speculation in hope of a material rise in values. It happens that the activity is not uniform over the country, but taken as a whole it is evident that there is a large amount of capital loose for building despite conditions which might be regarded as unfavorable. It is proof of the general prosperity of the country notwithstanding that agriculture has been hit hard by prices.

The Drug Evil

The widow of a motion picture actor who recently died after an unsuccessful attempt to break the grip of drug addiction has been publishing a series of "exposures" with the professed intent to fight the drug evil. Now it is announced that she has received more than a score of death threats written by addicts.

First reactions may suggest that the "death threat" story is a press invention. However, it is worth while to recognize that the attitude of the addict toward anything or anyone threatening to restrict the source of supply is one of desperation. It is not so generally believed, nevertheless, that the desperation of the narcotic addict is motivated by disease rather than by inherent or acquired criminality.

An interesting discussion of narcotic addiction has been written for the last number of Current History by a medical authority. The point made here is that most of the narcotic addicts, estimated at a million in the United States, have come into their sorry condition as a result of attempts to relieve suffering by medical administration. The theory is that, when considerable quantities of a drug are given to quiet pain, the body builds up a defense against the poison of the drug. When, in turn, the use of the drug is discontinued the defense built up by the body becomes in itself an active irritant, causing excruciating physical tortures that can be relieved only by a fresh intervention of the original drug. The writer makes the argument that the "craving" of the narcotic addict is not mental but physical, not something to be stilled by his will, and quite beyond his control.

That is not a pretty picture. It seems to call for a new attitude on the part of many physicians and the public generally toward an all too numerous class of unfortunates.

No part can be greater than the whole thing, but with Standard Oil and Tobacco "trust" dissolution results in mind, International Harvester stockholders may find satisfaction in an order to break up their company.

"The curse of having any conviction," says Dr. Frank Crane, "is not having enough of it." Tell that to the man who has just drawn 20 years, doc.

Trouble with the reformer is that he wants the biggest thing he calls his conscience to be the world's guide.

Brookhart may have to do his "senating" in overalls to avoid being collapsed in state-manship by the collarless Yonson.

The overhead expense sometimes causes a business to become topheavy.

The college graduate who has not yet accepted a position is now ready to take a job.

The dollar mark still looks bigger than the bunch of marks it can be exchanged for.

It is probable that as much trouble has been caused by half-truths as by outright lies.

The author gets little sympathy when he overreaches himself in efforts to get more than his share.

Snake stories seem less thrilling than in pre-prohibition days.

OFFICE CAT

BY JUNIUS

Typewriters run down more people than automobiles do.

As Shakespeare, the great philosopher, once said, "You can string beans and kid gloves, but you can't bull-frog."

THIS ONLY TIME A WOMEN IS ECONOMICAL IN THE MATTER OF CLOTHES, IS WHEN SHE BUYS A BATHING SUIT.

Generally there is just about as much junk in a boy's pocket as there is in his mother's library table drawer.

It isn't prohibition that encourages the drug habit but the profit made by peddlers.

One kind of woman can make the weary and work of married life seem a pleasure to a man. And the other kind of woman can make almost any man a good investment to a man.

The woman who refers to a peevish woman as an "old hen" would get awfully mad if someone referred to her own daughter as a "chicken."

It's fair enough. The majority forbids most of the bull, and the minority does most of the heering.

"A chain is no stronger than its weakest link," said the La Grande postmist.

"You are troubled with headaches a great deal, aren't you?" questioned the La Grande optician, pessimistically.

The Family Dines Out.
When we go out to some cafe,
Maw rubs up an awful holler,
When Paw forks biscuits like a jay,
And stuffs the napkin in his collar.

Dot Paw's got sense, and knows his stuff,
He's got more gumption than his wife.

He knows that lettuce hearts are tough,
And can be conquered with a knife.

My Paw may never really learn,
To do all the rules of etiquette,
He cuts his way, and Maw cuts hers.

But he enjoys his more, I bet.

"A Union man writes in to know what to do when suffering from falling hair. The best thing to do is to force a small white beard."

IF OUR DREAMINGS CAME TRUE
EVERY OLD MAID WOULD DIE A MILLION.

EVERY MAN WOULD BE A HERO.

EVERY WOMAN WOULD BE A SOCIETY LEADER.

EVERY SMALL BOY WOULD BE A PHILATELOR OR A COWBOY.

EACH AUTHOR WOULD WRITE A BEST-SELLER.

"To be polite? Why, he knocks before he goes in his own room."

The epigram has his wife telephone the office he is sick, the brave man tells his boss he is going fishing.

Too True
Pneumonia, heart and garden for next room to keep animals; apartment for summer boarders, imported wine in Herald—classified Ad in the World; and Citizen Herald.

TRY A WANT AD



Products that should be pure

BECAUSE Squibb's Household Products are the finest and purest made, we carry a complete stock of these standard articles, including Squibb's Bicarbonate of Soda (free from bitter taste), Squibb's Epsom Salt, Squibb's Sodium Phosphate, Squibb's Castor Oil, Squibb's Cod Liver Oil, etc.

Above all, these Household Products contain The Priceless Ingredient—the honor and integrity of their maker—Squibb.

We invite your inspection of our other merchandise just as cordially. You can find no better place to purchase fine perfumes, rubber goods, stationery and candies.

The J. L. Drug Co.

Editorials From Over the Nation

America and the Next War.
New Republic.—"Another bloody war is in the making. I would prevent it if I could; but if that bloody war is no concern of ours and comes from causes of which we are no part, I would not send a single American soldier across the sea."—Senator Johnson, speech of July 25.

We hope that Senator Johnson is wrong in his prognostication. He is supported, however, by an immense volume of authority. There is hardly a serious student of international affairs anywhere who does not feel grave concern over the danger of another great war within a generation to complete the work of destruction of the last. Few Americans care to give voice to their fears because of the survival of the old superstition that to mention the devil is to bring his prompt attendance. In deference to that superstition we shall be very hypothetical in our argument. Suppose another World war came on: Where would America stand?

If it were no concern of ours, Senator Johnson says we should keep out. To be sure, if it were no concern of ours; but the last war somehow made itself our concern. If we are no part of the causes of such a war, we should keep out. We did not even know what those causes were. What did we know then, or do we know now, of the bearing of the Moroccan question on that war, of conflicting imperialist ambitions in Asia Minor and Mesopotamia, of the commercial struggle waged in every market of the world? What did we know of the maneuvers of Edward VII, T. Ben. Von Bulow, Poincare, Sazonoff and the international strain they produced. No contented ourselves with a Mother Goose interpretation, resting on a mistranslation of Deutschland über Alles, which means precisely what we mean when we say "America First." But we got into the war just the same.

July Fuel Tax \$245,000.
SALISBURY, Ok.—The state tax on gasoline and distillate sold during the month of July aggregated approximately \$245,000, according to figures prepared here today by Sam A. Kozor, secretary of state. The tax totalled \$205,000 during the month of June. The substantial increase in the aggregate amount of the tax for the month of July was attributed by the secretary of state to the increased tourist travel.

Aids Legion Support.
BIRMINGHAM, Alabama.—Supporting the stand of the American Legion in Alabama for abolishment of the state's convict leasing system, many civic organizations throughout the Cotton State are working in favor of the movement. One of the most recent of these was the Lion's club of Mobile, which, after speakers from the legion had told the members what the system meant—"a relic of an ancient age"—unqualifiedly endorsed the action of the legion in fighting for a change system.

But if he tells you he wishes you to be a good fellow, my dear, his intentions never were serious.

Pocket Knife Sale

Commencing Saturday, August 25
THREE-BLADE, HIGHEST GRADE
POCKET KNIVES
With Punch Blade
These knives are fully warranted—made by American workmen
Regular Values, \$2.00 to \$2.75 Each
SALE PRICE
ONLY \$1.28 EACH

This is a chance of a lifetime—Don't Forget It.

Oregon Hardware & Implement Company
On Depot Street. Next to Penneys

AUTUMNAL MODES

Footwear

You will find a pleasing selection of Fashion's latest decree in our Fall stock. Short vamps in cross and one-strap models, with French and low heels; also a new line of sport oxfords, possessing class and pronounced individuality.

We advise an early selection.

Hosiery

Calling your attention to the latest Parisian fad "Nigger Brown" Chiffon Silk Hosiery to be worn with everything this Fall, their tasteful shades included.

MacWest & Co.

Protect Your Health
Drink
Budweiser
It's thoroughly aged, not green or unfinished.

U.B. Thrifty says.

No bank can be stronger than the man who stands back of it.
Every individual connected with our bank fully realizes that he must do his full share in making one institution a safe place for your deposits.
And you do not have to demand either SAFETY or SERVICE here — they are yours as the natural result of our safe, conservative banking policy.
We desire to please YOU. And to do this we know that we must give you real service.
May we serve you?
"When you borrow from a bank it demands security—when you deposit in a bank demand security"
La Grande NATIONAL BANK
SOUND-RELIABLE-PROGRESSIVE.